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Finance Committee Minutes 03-31-2003

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

7:30 PM O'Neill room, community safety building

3/31/03

ATTENDEES:

Janowitz*	Feinleib*	O'Riordan*	O'Neill	Mahoney*
DeCoursey*	Connors*	Simmons	Morrisette*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan*	
Piandes	Franclemont*	Jones	Olsen*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning	Tosi	Kneeland*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Capital Planning Committee Members Steve Andrew (Vice Chair), David Kale, John FitzMaurice, Barbara Thornton; Minuteman School Tom Markham, Jeff Stulin (Chair Minuteman School Committee), Erin Phelps (Arlington Member Minuteman School Committee); Paul Bauer.

MINUTES of 3/26/03 accepted as corrected. Unanimous

ARTICLE 56 CAPITAL BUDGET: The members of the Capital Planning Committee (CPC) walked the Finance Committee through a detailed handout, which explained their recommended budget of \$6.747 million. All fire station activity would be delayed two years to permit bonding the final phase of Reeds' Brook. The AHS roof would be delayed 1 year in order to fix the Ottoson plaza deck. Revenues include transfers from the antenna fund and the stabilization fund. In response to questions, the CPC explained policy for bonding vs. cash. The CPC considered using CPA funds but decided against for a variety of reasons. The CPC recommended last year to the Board of Selectmen that the Park Circle fire station be delayed but was overruled. Subsequently the CPC supported the Park Circle Fire Station. After considering raising opposition to Park Circle in the Finance Committee report, the committee decided not to since funding for Park Circle is now a future year project.

VOTED \$6,747,373 subject to possible adjustments in the prior year debt service (reconciliation of variance between Finance Committee Chair and CPC Chair accounts), the new debt service (Treasurer), and the antenna fund transfer (fund may be larger than at last check). Unanimous.

ARTICLE 59 MINUTEMAN SCHOOL: Markham reviewed the Minuteman this year's budget process using 2 handouts. This process has been marked by "confusion and chaos" because of provisions in the Governor's recommendations. Minuteman proposed a 1.5% budget reduction based on an expected 15% reduction in State support. Arlington's assessment would be \$2.3 million. Based on the actual proposal Arlington's assessment would be \$3.1 million. The school hopes to receive better funding from the Legislature which would cost Arlington \$2.46 million. These figures are after selling some land and reducing staff 10%. So far, 2 towns have voted for one of the assessments. All assessments are based on the Ed Reform law. Minuteman has received permission from the Commissioner of Education to accept 9th graders from out-of-district schools that don't offer a Minuteman program desired by the student, but this concession came at the price of reduced charges for such students.

COMMITTEE: Chair again requested all members to review entire budget and forward questions to appropriate subcommittee in hopes of saving time in April. Kneeland provided a revised meeting schedule showing meetings on 4/2, 4/14, 4/16.

RESERVE FUND BALANCE \$300,000

Peter B. Howard
 Secretary 4/1/03

Budget & Article Action Summary

Bud #	Date presented	Date of vote	\$	Vote	Art#	Date presented	Date of vote	\$	Vote/ assigned to
1					11	2/19	2/19	bylaw chng	11-2
2					13	2/8	2/8	support	
3					14	2/19		no report	
4					17	2/19		no report	
5					20	2/11	2/11	no report	Unanimous
6					21	2/11	2/11	no report	Unanimous
7					23				Foskett
8					24				
9					25	2/19		no report	
10					26	3/26	3/26	no action	Unanimous
11					27	3/26	3/26	no action	
12					30	2/26		info request	
13					31	2/26		info request	

14				32	2/19		no report	
15				33	2/8	postponed		
16				34	2/8	postponed		
17a				37				
17b				38				
17c				39				
17d				41	2/6	info req'd		
17e				42	2/6	info req'd		
17f				43	2/6	info req'd		
19				44	3/26	3/26	favorblact	Unanimous
20				45	3/26	3/26	no report	Unanimous
21a				46	3/26	3/26	no report	Unanimous
21b				47	3/26	3/26	no report	Unanimous
21c				48	3/26	3/26	no report	Unanimous
21d				49	3/26	3/26	no report	Unanimous
22				50	3/26	3/26	no report	Unanimous
23				51	3/26	3/26	no report	Unanimous
24				52	3/26			
25				53	3/26			O'Neill
26				55	3/26			Du Bois
WWS				56	3/81	3/81	6747373	Unanimous
Rec	3/6			57	3/26	3/26	no action	Unanimous
Rnk				59	3/81			De Courcerv
COA				60	2/19 26 3/6 Hum Rt 3/26 CPC 3/26 Disabl	2/19 26 3/6 3/26 3/26	10%reduct 4500 0 0	Unanimous Unanimous Unanimous Unanimous
YS				61	2/19	2/19	no action	Unanimous
				63A	2/26 3/26	2/19	2000	8-7
				63B	2/26 3/26	2/19	5667	14-1
				63C	3/26			
				63D	2/26	2/19	0	Unanimous
				63E	2/26	2/19	3000	12-2
				64B	3/26 Un Em			
				64C	3/26 Trav	3/26	1500	Unanimous
				64E	2/26	2/26	9813	Unanimous
				65	3/26	3/26	no action	Unanimous
				66	3/26	3/26	no action	Unanimous
				67	2/6 2/11	2/11	no action	Unanimous
				68	3/17	3/17	no action	Unanimous
				69	2/11	2/11 3/26	no action	Unanimous